NOT FOR CIRCULATION

California GARDEN

July/August 2007 Volume 98 No. 4 $4.00

BUTTERFLIES IN BLOOM

100 years in the making! Join us in Balboa Park—details inside

From the President

Garden lovers have enjoyed another spring season of county garden tours, including SDFA's first tour in many years. The custom of visiting the gardens of members was a necessity in our early history, as the occasion served as the monthly meeting place as well as a pleasant excursion. *California Garden* would print the invitation to members by stating, "The July meeting will be held in the garden at the Darling home." Often there would be no address, as the members all knew where everyone lived. Sometimes the trolley stop would be noted. The following month, the visited garden would be described in the magazine for all the readers to enjoy.

Tours of gardens may have been motivated by the garden contests sponsored and conducted by our members; awards or plaques were presented to the diligent garden owners. I have visited gardens in Point Loma and Mission Hills where these plaques are still proudly displayed on garden walls. These gardens are awarded such titles as "Best Large Garden Space," "Most Flowering Plants," "Best Lath House," "Best Rock Garden," "Best Rose Garden," or "Best Shady Planting." In 1949, a garden tour of five gardens in Mission Hills cost each guest 60 cents. In my research, I discovered that the garden that won "Best Large Garden" for three consecutive years is one we are fortunate to be able to visit today in its preserved state, the Marston Garden. We can be thankful for the efforts of the Marston family and the city for saving this delightful large space garden. Most of the wonderful old gardens have been replaced with parking lots and buildings, which may be why we enjoy the opportunity to visit these historic venues. Our founding members visited gardens for much the same reasons we follow their custom today; to learn about plants that grow well in our climate, to share new ideas and cuttings, and to enjoy the delightful ambiance of a friend's garden.

You will have an opportunity to visit the historic gardens vicariously when we publish our San Diego Floral Association history volume, which will include reprints describing the gardens of the past and their proud owners.

I thank all of you who attended our recent tour of six beautiful and unique gardens in Point Loma and Mission Hills. We especially appreciate all the sponsors and volunteers who made the event possible.

Kay Harry

MOVING? Please let us know.

Help us keep membership costs down by informing us of your new address promptly. Fill out this form and fax it to us at 619-232-5762 or mail it to:
SDFA, 1650 El Prado #105, San Diego, CA 92101-1622.

Changes of address can also be submitted by email to membership@sdfloral.org.

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California GARDEN

Library of Congress ISSN 0008-1116

Mail: 1650 El Prado #105
San Diego, CA 92101-1622
See us at Casa del Prado, Room 105, Balboa Park
Monday through Friday, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
619-232-5762
www.sdfloral.org

Telephone 619-232-5762
President: Kay Harry (president@sdfloral.org)
Arrangers Guild Chair: Dorothy Elwell (858-452-1397)

Published by San Diego Floral Association for 98 years

Volume 98, Number 4
The Magazine for Hands-On Gardeners and Floral Designers
July/August 2007

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Claims and opinions expressed by advertisers do not necessarily reflect the views of the editor and publisher of *California Garden* magazine.

Copies of *California Garden* can be ordered by mail for $4.00 per copy plus $2.00 shipping and handling.
Single copies of the current issue of *California Garden* magazine can be purchased for a donation of $3.00 at the locations listed.

LOS ANGELES ARBORETUM FOUNDATION, 626-821-3222, 301 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia, CA 91006
MISSION HILLS NURSERY, 619-295-2808, 1525 Fort Stockton Dr., San Diego, CA 92103
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California Garden (ISSN 0008-1116) is published bimonthly for donations (which also include membership in the San Diego Floral Association) of $20.00 per year or $35.00 for two years (foreign delivery add $6.00 per year). Published by San Diego Floral Association, 1650 El Prado #105, San Diego, CA 92101-1622.

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Periodicals postage paid at San Diego, CA. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *California Garden*, 1650 El Prado #105, San Diego, CA 92101-1622 or to membership@sdfloral.org.

PUBLICATION STAFF

EDITOR
John Hogan
editor@sdfloral.org

CALENDAR EDITOR
Karin Kratz
calendar@sdfloral.org

NOW IS THE TIME EDITOR
Staff
nowisthetime@sdfloral.org

AFFILIATE LISTING EDITOR
Jeannette Dutton

BOOK & VIDEO REVIEW EDITOR
Jean Hughes
librarian@sdfloral.org

COPY EDITOR
Susan McMonagle

ADVERTISING
Kay Harry

RENEWALS
Lisa Richey
membership@sdfloral.org

EDITORIAL COMMITTEE
Dorothy Carroll
Kay Harry
Robert Horwitz
Karin Kratz
Dee Krutop
Fredrik Liljeblad
John Noble

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Send all editorial material and change of address to:
California Garden
San Diego Floral Association
1650 El Prado #105
San Diego, CA 92101-1622
Email: editor@sdfloral.org

One Thousand Live Butterflies to Be Released

In honor of San Diego Floral Association's 100th anniversary, one thousand live butterflies will fill the skies of Balboa Park on July 21. The ceremony set to begin at 12 noon in the newly renovated Zoro Garden. The spectacular event will have PBS television personality Kathi Diamant as emcee.

The public is invited to attend the celebration, which features the release of five different species of butterflies native to the San Diego area. Specific host and nectar plants for all butterflies to be released are abundant in the Zoro Garden, thanks to the efforts of Balboa Park's horticultural staff.

Live larvae, also known as caterpillars, will be available for sale before and after the ceremony for those who would like to raise their own butterflies for release at a later date.

Butterflies and caterpillars are being raised by CHIRP for Garden Wildlife, Inc., a not-for-profit organization whose mission is to assist in the creation of garden habitats for butterflies and other winged wildlife.

Zoro Garden is a sunken garden located behind the Natural History Museum, near the Prado.

For additional information on the event, please visit www.sdfloral.org.—Maureen Austin

In Celebration of San Diego Floral Association's 100th Anniversary...
LIVE BUTTERFLY RELEASE
&
Garden Rededication
Saturday, July 21, 2007
12:00 Noon
Zoro Garden in Balboa Park
(at corner of The Prado & Village Place)
A collaborative project of:
City of San Diego Park and Recreation Department
San Diego County Master Gardeners
San Diego Floral Association
CHIRP for Garden Wildlife, Inc.
info: www.sdfloral.org

The Story of Balboa Park's New Attraction, The Zoro Garden

From naked ladies to Painted Ladies, Zoro Garden in Balboa Park has come a long way since its heyday in 1935. Originally built in 1915, this garden has had quite a colorful history. Formerly home to Queen Zorine, the leader of the renowned nudist colony, and later planted with ferns and fuchsias to create a shade garden, Zoro has now taken another turn and become a home for butterflies and caterpillars.

The new concept for Zoro Garden started with the beginning of the new millennium. Lovingly planted in the late '90s by Park and Recreation employee Paula Root, the Butterfly Garden has experienced ups and downs in its short history. Changes in priorities and staff have kept this gem out of the spotlight in recent years. On July 21, 2007, at 12 noon, Zoro will once again emerge from its chrysalis and become a butterfly. The garden will host a butterfly release of 1,000 butterflies to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the San Diego Floral Association. Painted Ladies, Monarchs, and Sulphurs are just a few of the butterflies raised by Maureen Austin of CHIRP for Garden Wildlife, Inc. to be released.

Maria Castillo, Susan Masing, and Mike Rasmusson, all gardeners from the city of San Diego, have been busily preparing for this event by propagating and planting this garden. Meanwhile, U.C. Master Gardeners Connie Whitney, Mary Manaster, Marilyn Wieland, and Meredith French have worked tirelessly at making informational signs.

During the event, the Master Gardeners will have a table set up from 11 a.m. until 3 p.m. to answer any questions about home gardening. Brochures created by Master Gardener Kathy Jones will be available to provide information on butterflies and plants of the garden. CHIRP will have live caterpillars for sale for those who want to grow their own butterflies. The Friends of Balboa Park have generously provided funding for the new mural in the garden, created by Vanessa Rusczyk. Everyone is welcome to attend this free event.—Julianne Young, Balboa Park Grounds Maintenance Supervisor

A Contest with Wings

SDFA is sponsoring an art contest to coincide with the butterfly release and garden rededication in the Zoro Garden on July 21, 2007, at 12:00 noon. The theme for the art contest is "Fly High, Butterflies" and submissions should consist of two-dimensional art pieces no larger than 9"x12". The contest is open to children who attend any ARTS (A Reason To Survive) programs, such as Monarch School, Cortez Hill Family Shelter, Becky's House, and Ronald McDonald House. An independent panel of judges will select a grand prize-winner and 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners, who will receive prizes and have their artwork displayed at the event.
—David Root

Come See Balboa Park's New Murals

The Friends of Balboa Park have underwritten the painting of butterfly murals on the doors of a storage building in the bottom of the recently renovated, sunken Zoro Butterfly Garden. Vanessa Rusczyk, an artist specializing in the flora, fauna, and landscapes of California, especially California native plants, has painted each of the three doors to the building with a different butterfly, caterpillar, and the host plant. The three panels feature the following: Monarch butterfly and caterpillar on Milkweed, Gulf Fritillary butterfly and caterpillar on Passion vine, and Orange-barred Sulphur butterfly and caterpillar on Cassia (Senna). Each panel will also include script identifying both the butterfly and plant, and the words Zoro Butterfly Garden will be painted above the doors. All of these butterflies and their host plants are included in the Zoro Garden. The goal is to both draw people down into the garden and to provide them with some information about butterflies and their habitats. The murals will be on display at San Diego Floral Association's butterfly release event and garden rededication on July 21, 2007, at 12 noon.—Karin Kratz

Reflections on the Zoro Murals

I have been painting part-time for the last four years, primarily in watercolor. My artwork features the flora, fauna, and landscapes of California, with my current focus exclusively on native plants of Southern California. Last year, my painting *Matilija Poppy* was accepted into a monthly show for the San Diego Watercolor Society, of which I am a member. I have been the official artist for the Sage & Songbirds Festival in Alpine since 2004.

I was asked this winter to submit a proposal and portfolio to be considered to paint the concrete outbuilding in the Zoro Garden. My proposal was to paint each of the three doors to the building with a different butterfly, caterpillar, and the host plant. The three panels will feature the following: Monarch butterfly and caterpillar on Milkweed, Gulf Fritillary butterfly and caterpillar on Passionvine, and Orange-barred Sulphur butterfly and caterpillar on Cassia (Senna). Each panel will also include script identifying both the butterfly and plant, and the words *Zoro Butterfly Garden* will be painted above the doors. All of these butterflies and their host plants are included in the Zoro Garden. My intention is to both draw people down into the garden and also to provide them with some information about butterflies and their habitats.

The project is generously supported by the Friends of Balboa Park, and I have to thank them, Paul Sirios from the Parks Department, and Maureen Austin of CHIRP for Garden Wildlife for supporting me in this wonderful endeavor.—Vanessa Rusczyk

Wine at Rosecroft

On Saturday, August 18, 2007, from 6–8 p.m., members and guests of SDFA will gather for wine, food, music, and a Silent Auction at Rosecroft, the estate on Point Loma built by SDFA Founding President A.D. Robinson. Ticket prices are $40 per person. Floral arrangements, prepared by the Flower Arrangers' Guild, will be positioned throughout the historic portion of the House and available in the silent auction.

Alfred D. Robinson (1866–1942) was born in England but immigrated to the United States. In 1895, he met and married Marion Duncan. The young Robinsons became enamored of Katherine Tingley, who was soliciting participants for her utopian compound, Lomaland, in Point Loma (now home to Point Loma Nazarene College). The Robinsons moved to Point Loma in 1903 and, in 1912, built Rosecroft on 10 acres near Lomaland. The home, a magnificent two-story wood-framed residence in the Italian Renaissance style, was designed by architect Emmor Brooke Weaver. The residence faces east (originally with sweeping views of the San Diego Bay, but now obscured by the tree canopy) and is accessed by a semi-circular drive. Several almost-century-old trees, some planted by pioneer horticulturist Kate Sessions, remain. The current owners of the estate, Scott and Mary Clifton, appreciate and continue to honor the home's historic significance, acquiring certification in the National Register of Historic Places, based primarily on the historic importance of A.D. Robinson. It is also designated as a San Diego Historic House.

In the gardens at Rosecroft, Robinson began his horticultural career mostly as a hobby. Thanks to his wife's family, they were independently wealthy. Tragically, the Robinsons' first child became ill while in boarding school at Lomaland, causing the Robinsons to sever ties with that institution. After Marion died in 1918, Robinson married Annie, the governess to his two children, and the family continued to live at Rosecroft. The couple had five more children. Both Marion and Annie were active participants in Robinson's gardening interests.

The beautiful gardens at Rosecroft, where many SDFA events were held, first contained roses and dahlias, but Robinson soon began to experiment with begonias. He hybridized and grew beautiful and properly documented plants. The pursuit of this knowledge elevated him to a national and international authority and he eventually hybridized more than 100 new begonias, painstakingly pollinating them by hand.

It was in the gardens at Rosecroft that Robinson sought diligently for the best microclimate for his precious begonias. He built his own water tower to collect rainwater, and he imported leaf mold from the mountains near Julian. Here he developed and perfected the use of the lath house. It was constructed with narrow strips of redwood oriented to run north and south. With this construction, he noted, "The sun shines through the laths, making a gridiron as it moves on its path [from east to west]. The stripes of shadow and sunlight change places every five minutes, providing . . . filtered sunlight and temperate weather with a fair degree of moisture." In the San Diego climate, a lath structure was just perfect for begonias and ferns. Robinson convinced the organizers of the 1915 Exposition to build a Lath House in Balboa Park (now the Botanical Building) for the event. The Rosecroft gardens became famous for begonias, termed by many as the finest in the world. Even after Robinson's death in 1942, the gardens at Rosecroft (under a different owner) remained a San Diego tourist attraction until the 1970s. At that time, the property was subdivided for real estate development. The Robinson mansion remains intact today on nearly 2-1/2 acres, but sadly, the begonias are gone.—Karin Kratz

Flower Arranging Tips

Provided by members of the Flower Arrangers' Guild

Double-sided transparent dots, "Zots" or comparable brands, are very useful for holding leaves, petals, or lightweight stems in place in floral arrangements. These can be purchased at craft stores or in the office supply sections of large retailers.

To make a unique, stemmed floral holder, remove the colored portion of the bird of paradise flower and insert floral foam. Add an arrangement of small blooms in the foam or insert small succulent plants.

Transform sunflowers into small black-centered flowers by removing the yellow petals. This provides a completely different "look" that is quite dramatic in certain combinations.

Send in your favorite tips for arranging flowers to editor@sdfloral.org.

Gardening Under Mediterranean Skies

The fifth Gardening Under Mediterranean Skies symposium comes to Quail Botanical Gardens in Encinitas on September 29 and 30, 2007. Learn how easy it is to create gorgeous gardens thriving in harmony with our climate and how you can have a beautiful landscape with a lower water bill.

The weekend celebrates plants that thrive with minimal care in San Diego's Mediterranean climate and showcases the wide range of garden possibilities in a low-water environment. It includes keynote talks at Quail, followed by visits to four excitingly different gardens for a combination tour and onsite lecture by the experts who designed them.

Titled "Lessons in Our Gardens—San Diego," the event is sponsored by Pacific Horticulture magazine in association with Quail, Garden Design magazine, the San Diego Horticultural Society, The Mediterranean Garden Society, and The Water Conservation Garden. The San Diego Floral Association is a supporting sponsor.

Participants will visit a garden of natives, one for birds and butterflies, another of succulents, and a fourth with a huge range of plant material. Owen E. Dell, an award-winning Santa Barbara landscape architect, will give a lecture at Quail on Sustainable Landscaping. The second Quail lecture features Shirley Kerins, an award-winning Pasadena-based landscape architect and former curator of the Huntington Botanical Gardens herb garden, who will speak on Exceptional Plants for Mediterranean-Climate Gardens.

The event includes tours of Quail, plant sales, and book signings. A box lunch will be enjoyed each day in one of the gardens, and there will also be a meet and mingle reception at Quail. To kick off the symposium, on September 28 there will be free talks and garden tours at The Water Conservation Garden at Cuyamaca College (www.thegarden.org).

Registration is $155 and includes two lunches, the reception at Quail, and a one-year subscription to Pacific Horticulture magazine. Discounts are available for members of the San Diego Horticultural Society, The Water Conservation Garden, and/or Quail Botanical Gardens, as well as for Pacific Horticulture subscribers. For more information and to register, go to www.sdhortsoc.org or call 760-295-7089.—Susi Torre-Bueno

And for Something Different . . .

Beau carnea isn't your average plant we cover in *California Garden*, but it's easy to grow here and well worth your time. The plant's common name is ponytail palm. I've also heard it referred to as elephant's foot palm. Both names do not really describe the plant adequately. It's a slow-growing evergreen belonging to the yucca family. The plants grown in the San Diego area originally came from dry regions of Mexico. They are very interesting in that, as the plant grows, it sends out strap-shaped long leaves held up by a fairly thin trunk, which swells to many times the trunk's diameter as it reaches into its soil. The base is rounded and covered with a rough bark.

Blossoms of small white flowers will appear after many years on panicles coming up from the center of the plant. This plant is a slow grower with few demands, which suits a warm arid climate. They thrive outdoors as well as indoors. Overwatering is their worst enemy.

After the plant reaches a height of three to four feet, you can cut off the top and it will send out several branches from that spot.—Bob Horwitz

Roscoroft photo by David Roos; beau carnea photo by Karin Kratz

Hoyt Scholars Announced

Four 2007 Roland and Ethel Hoyt scholarship recipients have been announced by Barbara Forrest, Scholarship Committee chairman for San Diego Floral Association. Debra Lynn Priddy, majoring in landscape design, and Eliana Uretsky, majoring in floral design, are both students at Cuyamaca College in El Cajon, California. Two additional applicants were chosen from Southwestern Collge in Chula Vista, California. They are Jodi Rosillo, a floral major, and Carlos Sanchez, a landscaping major. Each scholarship recipient will receive $400, bringing the total dollar amount of Hoyt scholarships awarded since 1987 to $13,000.

Roland K. Hoyt, FASLA, was an eminent San Diego landscape architect and author of *Ornamental Plants for Subtropical Regions*, first published in 1938. This book remains a major reference volume for landscape architects and horticulturists in Southern California. Ethel Hoyt encouraged the development of flower arranging in San Diego. She personally arranged for many instructors to give lessons for the association. She was one of the first nationally accredited flower show judges and was instrumental in forming the Flower Arrangers Guild and the Judges Council.—KK

Now is the time

African Violets

Barbara Conrad

» To maintain room temperature for violets above 60° and below 80°.
» To brush leaves with a camelhair brush to remove dust or even pet hairs.
» To mist violets periodically in hot weather with very warm water in a spray bottle. The water will cool before it hits the plants and provide extra moisture. Blot centers dry to avoid bright sunlight until droplets dry.
» To search for outer leaves having powdery mildew. Rub them lightly with fingers under the faucet with warm water. Pat dry. Try to place the plants where there is better air circulation.
» To watch for violets with leaves having long petioles, indicating that the plant is not getting enough light. Plants in these locations are less likely to bloom often.

Begonias

Doris Smith, Alfred D. Robinson Begonia Society

» To groom by removing dead leaves, old flowers, and other debris.
» To pot rooted cuttings in a light porous soil.
» To continue to check begonias for pests and disease.
» To fertilize for continued blooming in all plants.
» To feed tuberous plants.

Bonsai

San Diego Bonsai Club

» To water, water, water—but not over-water. During the hot months, it is best to water early in the day. Some bonsai may need two or three waterings on hot, dry days.
» To turn some trees for even sun exposure.
» To protect some plants by moving into a shaded area out of direct sun.
» To check for insects and pests—spray with a diluted spray. (Be careful with elm trees, which usually do not need spraying.)
» To mist or spray foliage of certain bonsai, those that are humidity-loving, in the evening or early morning.
» To wait until September or October to transplant bonsai.
» To remove excess blossoms from trees to save their strength for next year. Defoliate some of the deciduous varieties in July—not later.

Bromeliads

Mary Siemers, Bromeliad Study Group of Balboa Park

» To protect plants from getting sunburn by keeping them under shade cloth or any other material that will provide plenty of light for their best color and conformation.
» To water by spraying entire plant, as bromeliads absorb moisture and nutrients through their leaves. Be careful not to over-water the media, to prevent unhealthy soggy roots.
» To fertilize monthly during warm weather, by spraying with water-soluble fertilizer, especially one high in acid, using one-half the recommended amount on the label. (Bromeliads do not care for fish emulsion).
» To fertilize roots with a slow time-release fertilizer (preferably granular type) every three months. Example: For a 6-inch container, spread one teaspoon of fertilizer over the media around the plant.
» To make new plants by cutting off sets (pups) when they are one-third to one-half the size of the mother plant. Warm weather will encourage root growth. Always provide good drainage.

Cacti and Succulents

» To watch plants during hot weather. If they dry out too much, they can shrivel and burn in the sun. Protect delicate specimens from the sun with a screen.
» To water plants carefully. Some like to dry between waterings; others can take it wetter. Use less on the plants that are dormant.
» To fertilize growing plants but do not overfeed. A good rule of thumb is half strength every other watering.
» To watch plants for pests—especially snails. Treat immediately but be careful with insecticides.
» To check for plants that need repotting and do so.
» To enjoy your collection—take a little time to look at your plants.

Camellias

San Diego Camellia Society

» To continue to feed cottonseed meal at the rate of 1 tablespoon per gallon-sized potted plant or up to 2 cups per large plant in ground every 4–6 weeks through mid-August.
» To watch for loopers, mites, and aphids. Hose off aphids; use Malathion for loopers and a miticide for mites. Scales may sometimes be seen but are easily rubbed off. Orthene is an alternative for all the above.
» To maintain mulch around plants to keep roots cool and moist during hot, dry days.
» To continue regular watering. Inconsistent watering during this period is a primary cause of bud drop during blooming season.
» To start to disbud plants if fewer but larger blooms are desired.

The degree of disbudding is a personal decision. Consider leaving only one bud per cluster. For show-quality blooms, as few as one bud per branch may be left.

Dahlias

- To keep old blossoms cut back to first of leaves from the main stalk to prolong blooming.
- To disbud to encourage better blooms.
- To tie canes to prevent plants breaking—use a loop for each cane.
- To continue a regular watering program.
- To spray for insects and mildew; control slugs and snails.
- To feed with a 5-10-10 fertilizer.
- To cut blossoms in late afternoon or early morning and place immediately in water.

Epiphyllums

San Diego Epiphyllum Society

- To watch moisture—spray or mist is beneficial during hot, dry weather. Spray during evening hours or early morning.
- To repot plants that are root-bound.
- To take new cuttings.
- To keep plants out of full summer sun; they need filtered sunlight and free air movement.
- To remove spent blooms and unwanted "apples" to conserve the plant's vitality.
- To plant new cuttings during the warm weather, allowing new growth to become established during the growing season.
- To water hydrids during the hot summer months. Spray occasionally or mist. Do not allow soil to dry out completely.
- To continue pest and disease preventions using products according to the manufacturers' directions.
- To fertilize for new growth.

Ferns

Bob Halley, San Diego Fern Society

- To keep removing old fronds.
- To water frequently as most ferns are in full growth now. Try to keep humidity up.
- To fertilize with half-strength high-nitrogen liquid or slow-release pellets.
- To spray for aphids, thrips, and scale. Keep looking for snails and slugs. Spread bait as needed.
- To watch for Giant White Flies. They are best treated by wiping off egg spirals.
- To collect and sow spores. New ones should be coming available regularly.
- To protect your plants from the hot sun. Very few like full sun these days.

Fruit Trees and Vines

Vincent Lazaneo, Hort. Advisor, UC Coop Extension

- To monitor soil moisture within the root zone and irrigate when soil begins to dry.
- To periodically apply enough water to leach salts below plant roots (3–4 feet deep).
- To support limbs that have a heavy fruit load to prevent breakage.
- To begin harvesting fruit as soon as it is ripe.
- To remove fruit that is damaged or on the ground to discourage green fruit beetles and other insect scavengers.
- To prune out shoots killed by fire blight on pear, apple, quince, and loquat. Make cuts at least 12 inches below (if possible) infected tissue and disinfect pruning shears between cuts.
- To keep ants off trees and periodically wash foliage with a forceful spray of water to promote biological control of spider mites, aphids, whiteflies, scale, and other insects.
- To inspect new leaves for signs of zinc and iron deficiency (yellowing between veins). Apply micronutrient spray if needed.
- To prune out blackberry and raspberry canes that have borne fruit.

Herbs

John Noble

- To water wisely. Deep water basil, mint, Yerba mansa, Gota kola, horsetail, comfrey, and other water loving plants. Don't over-water your drought-tolerant herbs such as rosemary, lavender, sage, thyme, and aloe.
- To prune back plants that are taking over paths or smothering other plants.
- To fertilize and amend the soil.
- To prepare delicious meals with fresh basil.
- To dry bundles of oregano, thyme, sage, lemongrass, lemon balm, raspberry leaf, feverfew, chamomile, and stevia.
- To make herbal sun tea. Serve iced with a fresh mint leaf on a sunny hot afternoon.

Iris

Leon Vogel, San Diego/Imperial Counties Iris Society

- To dig over-crowded clumps. Divide and share rhizomes with friends.

Now is the time

» To dig whole beds if necessary to thin the clumps.
» To be sure to add amenities to soil such as fertilizer, peat moss, compost, gypsum, and new top soil.
» To rototill the soil well and allow to stand for a week if possible before planting.
» To feed (fertilize) at least three times yearly. Can foliar-feed in between. Irises are heavy feeders.
» To remember that iris can remain out of ground three weeks or more before replanting.
» To plant rhizomes. The top quarter should be showing above the soil line—they breathe.
» To trim the roots back to 1/2 inch when replanting—they send out all new roots within a few weeks.
» To not neglect to water enough to keep them growing. New beds require more water.

Native Plants

John Noble

» To let your plants go into summer dormancy.
» To water sparingly. Although many established natives need little or no summer watering, most are happy being watered once or twice a month.
» To check your irrigation system. Be sure spray systems are not blocked. Drip systems should not drip water directly at the base of the plants.
» To spray the landscape by hose. It mimics a summer storm and washes the leaves clean.
» To prune shrub overgrowth from pathways.
» To reduce fire risk by weed whacking the annual flowers and grasses.
» To lightly mulch bare soil areas.

Orchids

Christopher Croom

July

» To be more vigilant about diagnosing sunburn on your orchids.
» To continue watering and fertilizing steadily as your plants should all be in active growth.
» To move warmer indoor growers outside so they can benefit from the moving air and day/night temperature changes.
» To consider watering in the early evenings if the nighttime temperatures are above 65 degrees Fahrenheit.
» To add more moss (sparingly) to mounted plants that are showing wrinkly, yellow leaves or other signs of dehydration.

August

» To water all mounted plants frequently.
» To protect the more sensitive, cloud forest orchids from heat and dryness (namely, pleurothallids and miltonias) by watering more often and providing more shade.
» To continue consistently watering and fertilizing all members of your collection (including watering in the early evenings).
» To monitor the indoor orchids that you moved out for the summer to make sure they're not getting sunburned.
» To protect your orchids from hailstorms (if we get any) and insects with sucking mouth parts (scale, aphids, cottony mealybugs, spider mites, etc.), using insecticidal soap or pesticide if necessary.

Pelargoniums

Carol Roller

» To water thoroughly when plants become relatively dry. Do this before the heat of the day. Each watering should moisten the entire soil ball. Excess water should drain away. Keep foliage as dry as possible.
» To continue feeding a soluble balanced fertilizer with micronutrients. Use at less than the recommended strength as often as needed to keep plants from developing nutritional deficiencies. Water and feed before the heat of the day. If plants have become very dry, water them, but do not feed at that time.
» To continue pest control and disease prevention, using products according to the manufacturers' directions.
» To groom plants, removing discolored leaves and faded flowers. The old bloom stalks on regals, scenteds, and similar types should be cut away with a sharp blade.
» To take cuttings from zonals and ivies, if desired. Each cutting should have a healthy growing tip. Trim and insert into a moistened, sterile medium.
» To protect cuttings and tender plants from the sun if temperatures are high. Move to a sheltered spot or create overhead shade. Keep summer dormant plants dry and away from excessive heat.
» To rotate pots on a regular basis in order to keep plants well-shaped.

The letter *Z* can be very interesting. Two of my favorite "z" words:

Zoro (as in the Zoro Garden in Balboa Park) and

Zorro (the character in the movie *Zorro, the Gay Blade*, hilariously portrayed by the well-tanned George Hamilton some years ago).

However, since this is supposed to be an article about the Zoro Garden, its lepidopteran visitors, and the plants that attract them, I suppose I ought to stick to business—butterfly business.

The Legend of Zoro

Before we get into the mesmerizing subject of butterflies and the plants that they like, I will explain what the Zoro Garden is, where the place is, and why you should go there.

The Zoro is a charming grotto-like garden that has been redesigned as a butterfly garden. According to the San Diego Historical Society, the Zoro was an attraction at the 1935 California-Pacific Exposition. And an attraction it certainly must have been, since it was home to a nudist colony during the fair. Although it was fenced while the nudies were there, interested fairgoers managed to find knotholes. Enough about that.

The appellation "Zoro" was supposed to be based on the name of a sun god whose full name was Zoroaster. However, the only Zoroaster I know (not personally) was a Persian prophet operating around 600 B.C.

The new improved Zoro Garden boasts an abundance of plants that are said to attract butterflies of many species. The garden was recently renovated by the city's Parks and Recreation Department, with the guidance of Maureen Austin, executive director of CHIRP, and the Master Gardener Association of San Diego.

On July 21, at noon, there will be a special rededication ceremony at the Zoro, marked by the release of over a thousand butterflies by Austin. Species to be released will include Monarchs, Gulf Fritillaries, and Painted Ladies, among others. The event is sponsored by the San Diego Floral Association, celebrating its 100th birthday. It is the oldest garden club in Southern California.

The Zoro Garden is wedged between the Reuben H. Fleet Science Center and the Casa de Balboa, which houses organizations such as the Museum of Photographic Arts and the San Diego Historical Society. And across the street from the Zoro is the Casa del Prado, home to the San Diego Floral Association, with its more than 3,500 books related to gardening topics.

Your Very Own Zoro

Perhaps a visit to the Zoro butterfly release will inspire you to provide a butterfly habitat in your own garden. If so, here are some suggestions.

First, to successfully attract the most butterflies, you need to understand the butterfly life cycle: The egg is laid by the female on the host plant. The egg hatches into a caterpillar, which eats the leaves of the host plant. After several molts, the caterpillar forms a chrysalis. As a chrysalis, it hangs around for a while and then—presto!—out comes a fully formed, bodaciously beautiful butterfly. The butterfly adult never eats plant material; all it does is sip nectar, flit around, and look for a temporary significant other. After mating, the female flies about, searching for a host plant to lay her eggs on.

Butterfly adults take nectar from many kinds of plants, so it's pretty easy to find plants that both you and the butterflies like. However, each species of caterpillar requires its own type of host plant. For example, a female Monarch will lay her eggs only on plants in the milkweed (*Asclepiadaceae*) family, because the nutrients in milkweed are the only ones that will sustain the Monarch caterpillar, which looks like a character in *Alice in Wonderland*.

To get the most butterflies, include host plants for the caterpillar stage and nectar plants for the butterfly stage. Here is a very limited list of plants (remember that there are over 130 species of butterflies in San Diego County):

- Milkweeds (*Asclepias spp.*)—for Monarchs
- Lomatium (*Lomatium spp.*); Tauschia (*Tauschia spp.*); Parsley;
- Dill (*Anethum graveolens*)—for Anise Swallowtails
- Locoweed (*Astragalus spp.*); Plumbago (*Plumbago spp.*)—for
- Marine Blues
- Stinging Nettle (*Urtica holosericea*); Pellitory (*Parietaria spp*);
- Baby Tears (*Soleirolia soleirolii*)—for Red Admirals
- Cassia (*Cassia spp.*)—for Cloudless sulfurs
- Mallow (*Malva spp.*)—for West Coast Ladies, Painted Ladies

Nectar Plants

Butterflies especially like nectar from California natives in the Buckwheat (Flattop buckwheat), Mint (Coyote mint, Mountain pennyroyal), and Aster (Butterweed, Goldenrod, Erigeron) families.

Article by Pat Pawlowski. **© Pat Pawlowski**

Photos by Paul Chesterfield, www.imagesfromnature.com. **© Paul Chesterfield**

On the Cover: Cloudless Sulphur; Opposite Page: Tiger Swallowtail; Next Page: Monarch Butterfly; page 15: Gulf Fritillary (top), Giant Swallowtail (middle), and Painted Lady (bottom).

Desirable exotic nectar plants include Lantana (*lantana spp.*), Butterfly Bush (*Buddleia spp.*), Pentas (*Pentas lanceolata*), Coreopsis (*Coreopsis spp*), Black-eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia spp.*), purple coneflower (*Echinacea purpura*), Red valerian (*Centranthus ruber*), Spicy Jatropha (*Jatropha integerrima*), Verbena (*Verbena spp.*), and—a plant whose name starts with the letter *Z*!—Zinnias (*Zinnia elegans*).

E-Z as Can Be

Now that we've gotten the plants out of the way, here are a few other things you can do.

Zealously watch out for overenthusiastic helpers who insist on pruning and trimming the life out of shrubs and plants. Remember, blossoms provide nectar, and if you trim your flowering bush to look like a giant bowling ball, you will have removed all enticement for butterflies to linger. And take note that there are some kinds of bushes that are relatively useless.

Zucchinis don't attract butterflies—sorry.

Zephyrs are okay; just don't situate your butterfly garden near an area with high winds.

Zenithwise, let the sun shine in; butterflies like sunny areas more than shady ones. However, provide a little shade where you can sit on hot days and observe butterfly activities.

Zoogeography is a big word, but it's one to consider: Some butterfly species usually inhabit riparian areas, and others may prefer desertlike places (my backyard, for example). You might try to find out which species you are more likely to encounter in your neck of the woods, and put in plants to encourage them.

Zero pesticides in the garden! Toxic chemicals will kill butterflies along with the bad bugs. Instead, plant flowering herbs that tend to attract beneficial insects that will then pick off the baddies. Learn to tolerate some half-eaten leaves.

Zoot suits are okay for going out, but wear grubby jeans (as I do), get out there in the dirt, and play with your butterfly plants; it's good exercise.

Zoom in with a camera and take some pictures of your butterfly guests.

And if you are a fan of rap, you can call your winged visitors *butterfliz*.

The Butterfly World of Tomorrow at Zoro

Zounds! It sounds as though there will be butterflies galore at the big event scheduled for high noon on July 21 at the Zoro Garden. Why not zip over there and see for yourself?

Pat Pawlowski is a San Diego-based gardener and a regular contributor to California Garden.

SHAPING THE

THE EL MONTE OAKS

The accompanying illustration shows a portion of the El Monte Oaks, forming a grove of some of the largest oaks in San Diego County. It is this beauty spot which the Floral Association is seeking to have set aside as a pleasure grounds and "breathing place". The tract consists of forty-five acres which nearly half is covered with oaks like those shown in the cut. The remaining area is composed of hillsides and smaller trees, picturesque rocks and observation points. Drinking water is easily available. The grove is very accessible, being within twenty-five miles of easy driving from San Diego.

We all know *California Garden* magazine as a valuable resource for home gardeners in Southern California, but it also serves as a reflection of our broader horticultural interests.

As homeowners and gardeners, we are an integral part of the community in which we live. Historically, *California Garden* magazine and San Diego Floral Association members have not been shy in speaking up on local issues of vital importance to the immediate and long-term growth and viability of San Diego. Early members were part of a smaller and more intimate community. They spoke freely and with conviction on creating a city that had foresight and vitality and so shaped the development of the area for years to come.

The first decade of the organization was a particularly important time in shaping the future of the region. Park development, preservation of species, pollution, fire control, erosion, city beautification, clean streets and beaches, water sourcing, water conservation, and maintenance are all issues addressed and brought into the public forum by the organization.

The Floral Association was involved in the development of parks, particularly Balboa Park. Even at the birth of the organization, ideas were flowing to create a world exposition and SDFA was in the thick of that planning. The first public address on plans for what was to become Balboa Park and the 1915 Panama-California Exposition were given to members of SDFA by none other than the famed landscape architect John Olmstead in December, 1910.

San Diego Region

Meanwhile, prominent SDFA member Guy Fleming was championing the preservation of the Torrey Pines, later becoming the first curator of Torrey Pines State Reserve.

The following excerpts from past issues of *California Garden* magazine express the flavor and passion of SDFA editorials on regional political activities and issues. These excerpts are examples of just a few issues that have all been part of the rich heritage of information discussed and debated in California Garden magazine as we face the challenges of being informed and responsible citizens.—Lucy Warren

December 1910

We grow close to the ending of the year 1910. Probably this has been the most eventful year in the history of San Diego. And there is no doubt that it has been the most eventful one for the San Diego Floral Association. Probably we do not see the immediate results from the events of the past year, but we have inaugurated and planned for greater things that are bound to bear great results.

Probably no one greater thing that will affect San Diego horticulturally has taken place than the voting of the $1,000,000 Park Improvement Bonds. And now the committee has engaged that prominent firm of Brookline, Mass., landscape architects, Messrs. Olmsted Bros., to plan our new improvements.

This selection bears significance in the fact that the committee subordinates the building part of the exhibition to the horticultural part. This spirit commends itself to the members of our society. We do not criticize the appointment of those so well fitted to plan the general outline of the improvements, but the fact must not be lost sight of by the committee that Mr. Olmstead, who was here, admits that he knows nothing of the vegetation that will thrive here, or the great possibilities of our marvelous climate.

Knowing this fact, the committee will undoubtedly engage a competent gardener to supplement the advice of Messrs. Olmsted, someone who has lived here for years, and not only studied the plants now growing here, but also those that can be made to grow here. This advice should also be supplemented by other experts and experimenters on this coast from Santa Barbara south. No time should be lost in securing these services *immediately*. Time is precious, and in no case can this be more clearly demonstrated than in our park improvement. A palm planted this year will take a year, at any rate, to establish itself before it will make any growth, and in a few years' time plants worth a few dollars now could not be replaced for hundreds of dollars.

August 1913

The City Beautiful by V. O. Wallingford

In the development of the City Beautiful, having consideration of the relation of the contemplated house and grounds to its neighborhood and its neighbors, and, further, of the sympathy that must be established between the opportunity and the solution of the problem.

This City Beautiful of ours need not, and should not, be a city of one style of building nor of garden. We have read of the wonderful gardens of Seville and have heard of the beautiful formal Italian gardens, but we do not ask nor wish to have all of them and no other.

The one thing I demand is harmony, harmony between the house and its garden. Harmony between the adjoining gardens in the block, or perhaps even a spirit of complete harmony for the entire section between the two canyons.

(EDITORIAL NOTE: This concept of City Beautiful became a national movement with groups devoted to urban improvement across the country. City Beautiful of San Diego is still a viable, active organization now focusing on gaining museum status for the Botanical Building in Balboa Park.)

October 1913

Civic Center

In 1907 the first effort was made toward securing a central piece of ground around which public buildings might be grouped. It was proposed to enlarge the Horton Plaza and to build a city hall opposite the Grant Hotel. When Mr. John Nolen came here, the year following, he commended the general idea but said that even the enlarged plaza space would be inadequate for a worthy civic center. He then amplified the plan and suggested the block just east of the court house as a proper site. . . . San Diego has now an almost unparalleled opportunity to obtain not only a civic center, but a civic avenue, and owing to certain circumstances and also that both city and county need new buildings at the same time, the cost of all this will be exceedingly moderate.

February 1918

Plenty Water to Use, None to Waste by City Manager Fred Lockwood

Conservation is in the air everywhere, and we should be as careful of our water supply as any other universal need. If we don't waste water, there is no danger of the supply running short. . . . Do not leave water running. Don't turn on a stronger stream than you require at faucet. Don't neglect leaks.

Basil Time

The real name of basil is Ocimum. You can pronounce *basil* any way you like—baahsil, bay-sil, be-zil. Its uses and flavor transcend all of the pronunciation nonsense. I have found three types, the most common being sweet basil. Then there is purple or dark opal basil and globe or miniature basil. It really makes little difference to the cook, since they taste and smell alike. For the grower, there is some difference in the place to grow them. Generally, however, their cultural requirements are the same. Actually to optimize, just grow all three kinds.

Basil is easily grown from seed, but the easier way is to get a pot of it already sprouted from a nursery. Whether basil is grown in the ground or pots, the soil should be rich and well-draining. Allow about an eight-inch spacing in the ground, or a six-inch pot will do nicely. It's best to put them out in early spring, but all year except the winter months usually will suit a good crop. Keep the soil barely damp. Fertilize after they become well-established. Use leaf-promoting fertilizer.

As the plant nears maturity, it will produce flower stalks that have small white flowers at their tips. You can harvest leaves throughout the growing season and let the plant replace the picked leaves with new ones. The blossoms have that delicate basil flavor, so use them too. Pinching them off for use promotes more leaf growth.

Basil can be dried and stored. Dried leaves keep a lot of flavor. You can also keep them stored in olive oil, which flavors the oil as well.

My favorite use for basil is in pesto sauce. My recipe calls for one cup of basil, which yields enough to flavor four helpings of pasta. If you don't use it all the first time, it can frozen and used later.

Pesto Sauce

1 cup of basil leaves, removed from stems
1/2 cup parsley leaves
1/2 cup olive oil
1/2 cup dried sunflower seeds
1/2 cup grated Romano cheese
1/2 teaspoon salt

Put all ingredients into a blender and pulse until smooth. It is now ready to use.
Not only is pesto great on pasta, but it can also be used to garnish baked or fried chicken or fish. If you want to reduce the calories somewhat, use half olive oil and half water.

Robert Horwitz is a retired space engineer who gardens in the Point Loma section of San Diego.

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GARDENING CLASSES

WALTER ANDERSEN NURSERIES free classes. Classes begin at 9 a.m. in Point Loma at 3642 Enterprise St., and at 9:30 a.m. in Poway at 12755 Danielson Ct. Questions, call 619-224-8271 (Point Loma) or 858-513-4900 (Poway). Point Loma: July 7: Summer Lawns. July 14: Staghorn Ferns—Care and Mounting. July 21: Plumeria Care. July 28: Summer Rose Care. August 4: Soil Amendments Why and How. August 11: Gardenias, Choosing and What They Need. August 18: Shade Gardens—Ferns, Ginger, and Others. July 28: Summer Rose Care. Poway: To be announced (call store for details).

PEARSON'S GARDENS. Saturdays, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Pearson's Gardens & Herb Farm, 1150 Beverly Dr., Vista. 760-726-0717 or www.pearsonsgardens.com. July: Lavender Splendor. August: Basilmania.

BALBOA PARK

SAN DIEGO ZOO

Plant Days: Third Friday of each month and Orchid Odyssey: Third Friday of each month and first Sunday of March, June, and December, and second Sunday in September.

SAN DIEGO JAPANESE FRIENDSHIP GARDEN

Winter Hours (Labor Day through Memorial Day): Open Tuesday through Sunday, 10 a.m.–4 p.m. Summer hours: Monday through Friday, 10 a.m.–5 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 10 a.m.–4 p.m. Fee. 619-232-2721.
Saturday, August 4, 10 a.m.–noon; Japanese Herb Planter for Kids. Open to children 5–12 years old; $10 per child for members; $15 per child for nonmembers. Call the Garden to register your child. 619-232-2721. Visit www.niwa.org for further information.

OFFSHOOT TOURS

Volunteer-guided. Various topics. Saturdays, 10:00 a.m. Meet at Visitors Center. 619-235-1121. Free. Inclement weather or fewer than four cancels.

INTERPRETIVE WALKS

Volunteer-guided. History-oriented topics. Meet at Visitors Center. Tuesdays at 1:00 p.m. Free.

ONGOING EVENTS

BLUE SKY ECOLOGICAL RESERVE

Walks. Poway. Saturday and Sunday, 9:00 a.m. 858-679-5469.

CUYAMACA COLLEGE

Water Conservation Garden is home to 4+ acres of beautiful, award-winning, low-water-use landscaping and educational displays. Docent-led tours Saturdays, 10:30 a.m., and Sundays, 1:30 p.m. 619-660-0614. Check website calendar for classes and special events at www.thegarden.org. Free; donations accepted. Dozens of gardening, composting, art, and family classes throughout the year.

Free Summer Concert. Jim Earp and Friends! Sunday, July 29, 6-8 p.m. The Garden comes alive with Jim Earp and his talented musician friends. Joining Jim will be several San Diego artists who will entertain you with soulful vocals and great guitar. For more information, visit www.thegarden.org or call 619-660-0614.

QUAIL BOTANICAL GARDENS

Open daily, 9 a.m.–5 p.m. Call for times on docent-led garden tours, weekly or monthly events, and classes for kids and adults. Tours: Every Saturday at 10 a.m. Meet at Visitors Center. No reservations required. Bird Watching: 8:00 a.m. first Monday of the month. Meet in the main parking lot. 230 Quail Gardens Drive, Encinitas. 760-436-3036 or www.qbgardens.com. General admission.

SAN DIEGO CHINESE HISTORICAL MUSEUM AND GARDEN

Exquisite Asian garden. 404 Third Ave., San Diego. Tuesday–Saturday, 10:30 a.m.–4 p.m., Sunday, 12-4 p.m. Fee. Members and children under age 12 are free.

SAN DIEGO NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM

Canyoneer Walks. Saturday and Sunday. Free and open to the public; no reservations required. 619-232-3821, ext. 203, or www.sdnhm.org for locations, times, and directions.

THE HUNTINGTON LIBRARY, Art Collections and Botanical Gardens.

Open Tuesday through Friday, noon to 4:30 p.m., Saturday and Sunday, 10:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Closed Mondays and most holidays. $15 adults, $12 seniors, $10 students (12-18), $6 youths (5–11), under 5 and members free. Group rate (10+): $11. 626-405-2100 or www.huntington.org.

WALKABOUT INTERNATIONAL

Local Guided Walks. Newsletter. 619-231-SHOE. Free.

LOCAL GARDENING TELEVISION PROGRAMS

Down to Earth with Tom Piergrossi, daily at 7:30 p.m. on CTN, Time Warner 22, Cox 19, or Adelphia 66.

San Diego
Floral Association
SINCE 1907
CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

July 2007

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9 San Diego Horticultural Society monthly meeting, 6 p.m.	10	11	12	13	14 San Diego Bromeliad Society monthly meeting, 10:00 a.m. Quail Gardens Annual Insect Festival, 10 a.m.–4 p.m.
15 Quail Gardens Annual Insect Festival, 10 a.m.–4 p.m.	16	17 California Native Plant Society monthly meeting, 7 p.m.	18	19 San Diego Fern Society meeting, 7:30 p.m.	20	21 Butterfly release and re-dedication of Zoro Garden, 12 noon.
22 Southern California Plumeria Society special event, 1–4 p.m.	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

August 2007

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11 San Diego Bromeliad Society monthly meeting, 10:00 a.m.
12	13 San Diego Horticultural Society monthly meeting, 6 p.m.	14	15	16 San Diego Fern Society meeting, 7:30 p.m.	17	18 Wine at Rosecroft, 6–8 p.m. San Diego Fern Society show and sale, noon–5 p.m.
19 San Diego Fern Society show and sale, 10 a.m.–4 p.m.	20	21	22	23	24	25 Tours of the Inez Grant Parker Memorial Rose Garden in Balboa Park, 9:15 a.m.
26 Southern California Plumeria Society meeting, 1–3 p.m.	27	28	29	30	31	

July/August Calendar of Events

July 9 | Monday

San Diego Horticultural Society monthly meeting. Garden writer Debra Lee Baldwin will discuss low-maintenance gardens. 6:00 p.m., Surfside Race Place at the Del Mar Fairgrounds. Free lending library, free information exchange, and selected vendors. For more information, visit www.sdhortsoc.org or call 760-295-7089.

July 14 | Saturday

San Diego Bromeliad Society monthly meeting, 10:00 a.m., room 104, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park. Program of demonstrations on growing bromeliads and plant raffle. Free. Visitors welcome. Information: 858-543-6486 or www.bsi.org/webpages/san_diego.html.

July 14-15 | Saturday-Sunday

Quail Gardens Annual Insect Festival, 10 a.m.–4 p.m. Explore the wonderful world of insects in a one-of-a-kind event featuring thousands of fascinating creepy-crawlies, including live insects, lizards, snakes, and the famous "Madagascar hissing cockroaches." Children 12 and under admitted free. Entomologists will be available for questions and more than 10 informational booths will teach and entertain children and adults alike. Amazing live animal demonstrations. For more information, call 760-436–3036, ext. 206. The event is free with the price of admission and parking is free.

July 17 | Tuesday

California Native Plant Society monthly meeting. Carl Bell, University of California Cooperative Extension, will speak on managing invasive weeds in San Diego County, 7–7:30 p.m. Discussion, camaraderie, book sales table, and identification of mystery plants. 7:30 p.m. program. Room 101 or 104, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park. No charge. Visit www.cnpssd.org for further information.

July 19 | Thursday

San Diego Fern Society meeting, room 101, Casa del Prado, 7:30 p.m. Guests are welcome.

July 21 | Saturday

Butterfly release and rededication of Zoro Garden. 12 noon, Zoro Butterfly Garden (at end of El Prado near the Natural History museum). Free. For further information, call 619-232-5762 or visit www.sdfloral.org.

July 22 | Sunday

Southern California Plumeria Society Special Event. War Memorial Building, Balboa Park, 1–4 p.m. Acclaimed Plumeria researcher Dr. Richard A. Criley, horticulture professor at the University of Hawaii and foremost authority on plumerias, will speak on all aspects of this "lei" flower of Hawaii. Dr. Criley's work with plumerias is acknowledged as one of the most extensive in the world, and he is widely published on the subject. Information: 760-451-1472. Free admission.

August 11 | Saturday

San Diego Bromeliad Society monthly meeting, 10:00 a.m., room 104, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park. Program of demonstrations on growing bromeliads and plant raffle. Free. Visitors welcome. Information: 858-543-6486 or www.bsi.org/webpages/san_diego.html.

August 13 | Monday

San Diego Horticultural Society monthly meeting. Plantwoman Judy Wigand will share examples of how attractive dry landscapes can be, including water-wise bird and butterfly garden designs. 6:00 p.m., Surfside Race Place at the Del Mar Fairgrounds. Includes plant forum, free lending library, free information exchange, and selected vendors. For further information, visit www.sdhortsoc.org or call 760-295-7089.

August 16 | Thursday

San Diego Fern Society meeting, room 101, Casa del Prado, 7:30 p.m. Guests are welcome.

August 18 | Saturday

Wine at Rosecroft, 6–8 p.m., Rosecroft Estate, 530 Silvergate, Point Loma, San Diego, California 92106. Wine, food, music, and a silent auction. Part of the 2007 Centennial Celebration for San Diego Floral Association. Tickets available at San Diego Floral Association library/office, room 105, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park. 619-232-5762 for information or www.sdfloral.org.

August 18-19 | Saturday-Sunday

San Diego Fern Society show and sale featuring beautiful and unusual ferns from around the world. Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park. Saturday, noon–5 p.m., Sunday, 10 a.m.–4 p.m. Sales area opens 10 a.m. Saturday with a great selection of fern choices for purchase.

August 25 | Saturday

Tours of the Inez Grant Parker Memorial Rose Garden in Balboa Park, 9:15 a.m.; meet at north end. The garden, a civic treasure, displays 2,000 roses of 80 different varieties. Dick Streeper, one of the founders, will give a short talk about the history and importance of the garden. Consulting rosarians will lead groups of about 15 people on different routes throughout the garden for about 45 minutes. Questions welcome. For further information, visit www.sdrosesociety.org.

August 26 | Sunday

Southern California Plumeria Society Meeting. War Memorial Building, Balboa Park, 1–3 p.m. 760-541-1472 for further information.

Deadline for submissions to horticultural calendar for September/October 2007 issue is July 20. Email event info to calendar@sdfloral.org. San Diego Floral Association is not responsible for last-minute changes or any information submitted late by the organizations.

Digital Photography in the Garden

STORY AND PHOTOS BY ARTHUR DAWSON

PREVIOUS PAGE: IWANAGARA APPLE BLOSSOM 'H&R'; THIS PAGE: CLEMATIS VITICELLA 'ALBA LUXURIANS'; NEXT PAGE: CLEMATIS HUVI. (TOP) AND LOBELIA LAXA (BOTTOM)

I approach this subject with some hesitation because I have used only half a dozen models of digital cameras and there is a wealth of information on the Internet about the new ones that appear almost weekly. If you're in the market for a new camera, I would especially recommend Phil Askey's excellent site (www.dpreview.com/reviews) or Steve's Digicams (www.steves-digicams.com/hardware_reviews.html). And there is a very good recent article on digital SLR cameras at Macworld (www.macworld.com/2007/03/reviews/dslrroundup/index.php?pf=1) that isn't at all Macintosh-specific.

The reason I'm adding my two bits worth is that garden photography, especially close-up flower photography, introduces some special problems that will affect your choice.

A few years ago, the first consideration in purchasing a camera was its resolution or how many pixels (picture elements) were recorded with each exposure. At the low end of the price scale were cameras in the 1 to 2 megapixel range, suitable for snapshots that could be enlarged to perhaps 4 by 6 inches. Anything larger would show "pixelation" or jagged edges on what should be smooth, curved lines. Cameras recording 3 to 5 megapixels, suitable for prints measuring 8 by 10 inches or larger, would cost close to $1,000, about as much as the consumer would be willing to pay. Single lens reflex cameras (SLRs), which could use a number of specialized lenses, would cost well into the four-figure range.

In the last few years, there has been a rapid improvement in the capability of digital cameras accompanied by a steep drop in the price. All consumer cameras in the middle price range and up offer resolutions of 5 megapixels or better. As I pointed out in my last article, except for huge enlargements, there is no significant difference between the results, whether you use 5 or 10 megapixels.

Your big decision today is whether to buy a digital SLR or a point-and-shoot (perhaps more fairly called all-in-one) camera. I'm going to surprise you by recommending the latter if your major interest is close-up flower photography.

I have three digital cameras. One small one, a Canon SD700, slips into my pocket. I take it on trips and walks where I don't want to be burdened with a heavier camera or to look too much like a tourist. It takes excellent snapshots of people and places and

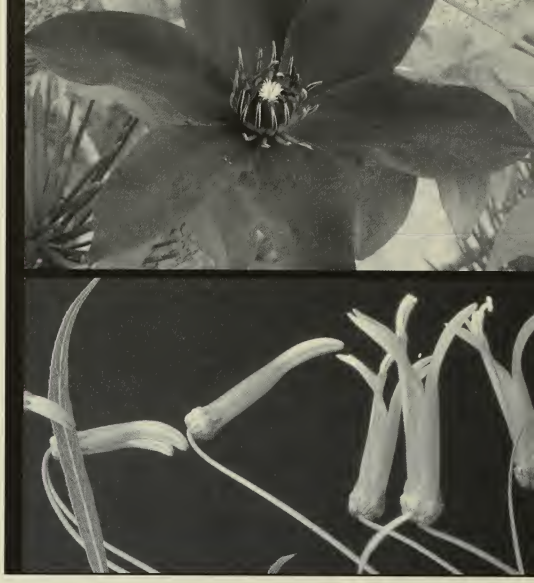
is always available. I have a Canon 300D SLR with several good lenses, including a macro lens. It is unmatched for portraits and is the only camera I would use for nature telephotography, even at the moderate distances from the subject that I encounter at the zoo. My third camera is a high-end all-in-one, the Nikon 8700. I use it for almost all of my flower photography. Why would this be?

First, the all-in-one camera is much more convenient. The 300D is bulky and heavy in comparison, though this is not much of an issue for the serious flower photographer who is already encumbered with a tripod and a few other props. With an SLR camera, you look directly into the viewfinder and see the actual image reflected off of a mirror. The all-in-one provides an LCD that shows approximately what the final image will look like. The SLR takes the picture almost immediately after you press the shutter, while there is a definite delay with the all-in-one. This can be a real problem with sports photography or taking pictures of hyperactive grandchildren. However, with the SLR, you must hold the viewfinder directly to your eye. Gone is the convenience of the swiveling LCD. And you must crouch uncomfortably to photograph a flower near the ground. In addition, you can zoom the lens of the all-in-one camera, making it much easier to compose the photo, filling the frame with one flower if you choose to do so. With the fixed focal length of the macro lens, you do your composing by the much less convenient process of moving the camera closer to or farther away from the subject.

However, for me the deciding factor is the superior depth of field with the small-diameter lens in the all-in-one camera. Depth of field refers to the distance between the nearest and the farthest points at which the subject is in acceptable focus and it is a big issue with macrophotography. The closer you are to the subject, the shallower the depth of field. I am aware of the calculations explaining the "depth-of-field myth" that point out that if the aperture of a larger format lens is stopped down sufficiently, then it can achieve the same depth of field as a camera with a smaller lens. However, when I use the smallest available aperture (largest f-number) of my point-and-shoot cameras, as I always do, then I routinely get better depth of field than with the SLR and a macro lens.

If you are interested in close-up photography and decide to get an all-in-one camera, you should look carefully at the specifications of your intended purchase. The key number is the minimum focus distance, which can vary a lot between models. For example, the highly rated Canon PowerShot G6 can get no closer to the subject than 5 cm., while its successor, the G7, can focus at 1 cm.

My recommendation, if you plan to purchase only one digital camera and are interested in close-up flower photography, is to buy a high-end all-in-one camera with a good macro capability. It will probably cost in the $300-500 range. However, if you have the funds, then you will certainly want an SLR camera. If you already own some lenses for your film camera (most likely a Nikon or a Canon), then you'll want to stick with the same manufacturer so that you can continue to use these lenses.



There's no point in buying the "kit lens" that comes with the popular SLR bodies. If you're going to invest in a serious camera, then you should get good glass to go with it.

Most of the all-in-one cameras are sold with a memory card providing something like 32 megabytes (MB) of storage. Depending on the resolution of the camera, that might be enough for half a dozen to a score of shots if you use the least compression, which you should always do. In other words, they're completely useless. Do yourself a favor and get at least a 1 gigabyte (GB) card, which might set you back $30. Then you'll never "run out of film." Once you get yourself trained to think digital, you'll fire away freely and will even use the camera to record labels and signs instead of writing notes that will inevitably get lost.

Let me close by assuring you that you don't need a fancy camera to get a decent flower photo. Just look at the photo of the orchid Iwanagara Apple Blossom 'H&R' that opens this article. I took it with my Canon SD700 point-and-shoot.

In the next issue, I'll try to get less technical and will share with you some of the tricks I've found useful for close-up flower photography.

Arthur Dawson was born in Montreal and came to La Jolla in 1964 to work for Scripps Clinic. He doesn't like change: He's been in the same job for 43 years, married to the same wife for 46 years, in the same house for 40 years, and driving the same car for 20 years—which only goes to show how meaningful the switch to digital photography was for him.

Color Your Garden with Bougainvillea

This Brazilian beauty queen offers countless gardening possibilities.

Story and photos by Sabrina Abercromby

This page: Tai Delight; page 28: La Jolla and Raspberry Ice

I loved crayons when I was a kid. I enjoyed their waxy smell and collected every color from sky blue to burnt sienna. My favorites were the more unusual ones, like metallic copper and especially all of those bright neon colors. In the gardening world, we use flowers to color the landscape, and bougainvilleas are just like those neon crayons, bringing vivid color to everything they touch. These shrublike vines can be seen all around San Diego, climbing up trees in hot magenta, spreading across walls in bright purple, and reaching over fences in electric red.

And just like that ever-expanding box of crayons, new bougainvillea varieties are always being developed. They come in striking colors like yellow-gold, pinkish orange, and hot pink. Or, for a softer palette, there are colors like pale pink, lavender, and white. In addition to the full-sized plants, more and more dwarfs are introduced each year, making the gardening possibilities endless.

Perfect for Southern California

Bougainvillea was discovered in Brazil in the late 1760s by a French botanist. He named the plant after his naval commander, Admiral Louis de Bougainville, who was in charge of the expedition. Today, bougainvilleas grow throughout the world in warm climates. And because they thrive in full sun and require little water, they are ideally suited for Southern California. These showy plants are near-evergreen, drought-tolerant, and easy to grow. They start blooming in the spring and keep going almost year-round. One of their secrets: The papery bracts that surround their tiny white flowers are modified leaves, not true flower petals, which results in a long-lasting bloom.

These vigorous growers can be left on their own as sprawling vines that reach up to 30 feet tall. If this sounds a little too wild for your taste, they can also be tamed into a variety of shapes suitable for almost any garden.

Because bougainvilleas grow quickly, they make excellent flowering hedges and privacy screens. Trellises are useful for keeping them tidy along walls or for shaping them into an arch. Do you have a boring patio cover that could use a little more life? Just place a potted bougainvillea next to one of the supports and let it grow upward until it spreads out over the top, creating a colorful display.

Bougainvilleas can also be bought as small trees, or shaped into them at home. They are formed by tying the main branch to a pole or stake. The leaves are removed from the supported area of the stem while a ball of blooms and foliage grows on the top.

Bambinos and Other Dwarfs

Perhaps you have a small yard or patio garden. No problem. "New varieties are coming out to suit people's needs," says Evelyn Weidner, owner of Weidners Gardens in Encinitas. A dwarf variety from Australia, called Bambino, was available in California last year in a limited release. "They did very well," says Weidner, who carried them in her nursery. "All of mine sold out."

These dwarfs grow to 3-4 feet tall and are perfect for areas where you need them to stay compact with less pruning. Currently, four types of Bambino are available: Baby Alyssa, with variegated leaves and white bracts; Baby Lauren, with lavender bracts; Baby Sophia, with copper-orange bracts; and Baby Victoria, with variegated leaves and magenta bracts. "I love Bambinos!" says Weidner, who is carrying them again this year as part of a much wider release.

Other dwarf varieties are available in a range of sizes. Some stay really short, like Oo-La-La, which grows to about one and a half feet tall. Larger dwarfs, like Fireball, can reach up to eight feet tall. These plants make low-maintenance ground covers and can also be used in hanging baskets.

Colors and More Colors

Bougainvilleas bloom in many colors, including yellow, gold, orange, pink, red, magenta, lavender, purple, white, and, quite often, a combination of two or more colors. For example, James Walker has orange-pink bracts and Tai Delight has white and hot pink bracts.

Can't make up your mind? Try planting two different colors close together and let their colors intertwine into a multicolored display. I recently saw a topiary where a white vine was planted next to a red vine. Their stems were twisted up the stake to create a two-toned ball with red and white bracts. This can also work well against walls and fences. If you try this, just make sure you pair varieties that have similar growing habits and blooming cycles.

Select a location in your garden where your plants will receive full sun. They should be in an area that is protected from strong winds, which can quickly damage them as the thorns rip through the leaves. Most of the taller varieties need some form of support. Warm walls are perfect. They not only protect and support them, but the heat will lengthen their blooming period.

Use caution when placing them near walkways because of their sharp thorns. Branches should be trimmed back regularly to keep the thorns from scratching unsuspecting passersby.

Although bougainvilleas are hardy once they are established, they have very sensitive roots that should be handled carefully when transplanting them. First, dig a hole about twice as wide as the pot, but the same depth. Next, to minimize contact with the delicate root ball, cut the bottom off of the pot and place the plant with the bottomless pot in the hole. Then, either cut the pot down the side and remove it or gently slide the pot up over the flexible branches. Next, fill the hole with soil, being careful not to press down directly on the root ball, and then water it thoroughly.

Caring for Bougainvilleas

One of the reasons bougainvilleas are so popular is because they are easy to please. They are pretty hardy and will tolerate neglect. However, they are sensitive to cold temperatures. If it gets really cold outside, they will lose their leaves—prolonged periods of frost may even kill the more delicate varieties.

To encourage your plants to bloom, keep the soil slightly dry. Just make sure you don't let them get to the point where they wilt. That's a little too dry. To encourage plant growth, water your plants a little more often.

Absorbent clay pots are the best choice for container gardens because they keep the soil from staying damp. Bear in mind that potted plants need to be watered more frequently than those that are in the ground.

Bougainvilleas don't require much fertilizer. Feed them when they begin growing and then again in the summer. If your plants aren't blooming, they may not be receiving enough sun. Or if that isn't the case, overfeeding and overwatering will also prevent them from blooming.

Plants should be pruned after they finish blooming and as needed during the growing season to keep their size under control. But look out: Their long thorns are needle sharp. Wear thick gloves that are suitable for rose gardening along with a long-sleeved shirt to protect your arms. It's very easy to brush up against the thorns and get cut without realizing it until later.

Until recently, bougainvilleas tended to be pest-free. However, the bougainvillea looper has made an appearance in the San Diego area. These small caterpillars feed on the leaves and can be devastating if allowed to multiply and live on the plants for too long.

"On a small plant," says Weidner, "they can almost kill the plant. On larger plants, they can do a lot of damage." The trouble is that the loopers are small and tend to hide on the underside of leaves. Weidner's advice: "Look for scalloped edges, like someone's been munching on them."

The best form of treatment is Spinosad, an organic insecticide that is generally safe for most beneficial insects. Another option is to use a product with Bacillus thuringiensis, or Bt, as an ingredient. These products break down in the sunlight, so spray your plants regularly to control an infestation.

Color Your Garden

Bougainvilleas can transform an ordinary yard into an eye-catching garden. Whatever size and shape you choose, they are a great way to fill your garden with a riot of color.

Sabrina Abercromby is a local freelance writer and gardening enthusiast.

So Many to Choose From

Some of the bougainvillea varieties that are available:

Regular Varieties

Barbara Karst: Hardy variety with magenta bracts
California Gold: Yellow-orange bracts
Coral White: White bracts with a blush of soft pink
Don Mario: Magenta bracts
James Walker: Orange-pink bracts
Mary Palmer's Enchantment: White bracts
Miami Pink: Magenta bracts
Orange King: Orange bracts
Purple Queen: Purple-pink bracts
Royal Purple: Rich, deep purple bracts
San Diego Red: Red bracts
Southern Rose: Magenta bracts
Tai Delight: Hot pink and white bracts
White Madonna: White and soft pink bracts

Dwarf Varieties

Bambino Baby Alyssa: White bracts with variegated leaves
Bambino Baby Lauren: Lavender bracts
Bambino Baby Sophia: Copper-orange bracts
Bambino Baby Victoria: Magenta bracts with variegated leaves
Fireball: Magenta bracts; grows 6-8 feet tall
Firemound: Magenta bracts; grows 4-6 feet tall
La Jolla: Magenta bracts, grows to 2 feet tall
Oo-La-La: Magenta bracts, grows to about 1-1/2 feet tall
Pink Pixie: Pink bracts, grows to 4-6 feet tall
Pixie Queen: Light pink bracts with variegated leaves
Raspberry Ice: Magenta bracts with variegated leaves
Torch Glow: Reddish-pink bracts; grows to 6 feet tall

quality, nutrition, planting density, soil texture, temperature—all influence its performance and size. Other rootstocks may have a dwarfing effect on mature tree size in certain citrus varieties. Such trees may be labeled semi-dwarfs and can grow to about 2/3 of the standard size. Almost all citrus varieties sold in California are available dwarfed to some extent with the exception of Eureka and Lisbon lemons, which are too vigorous for dwarfing. Eureka lemon scions are incompatible with "Flying Dragon" rootstock. Some citrus varieties are natural dwarfs, such as improved Meyer lemon. It is very important to purchase your citrus from a reputable nursery, so you know exactly what you are getting.

Young trees are preferred because of their vigor and lower purchase price. You will know your tree is healthy and vigorous if it passes the "look at me" test: large leaves of uniform color, leaves the entire length of the trunk, bright and clean bark without wounds or other defects, and the bud union well-healed and at least 6 inches above the ground.

Vince Lazaneo, UCCE advisor, has included a list of popular citrus varieties in his "Citrus for the Home Garden" handout. You can request a copy by calling the Master Gardener Hotline at 858-694-2860 or sending an e-mail to help@mastergardenerssandiego.org.

Ottillia Bier from the UC Riverside Citrus Experiment Station, which has 500 types in its citrus collection, suggests asking nursery personnel to point out some new varieties. You don't have to get "stuck" with the very familiar varieties—experiment, especially with mandarins. Ask about Gold Nugget and Seedless Kishu. There is a mutated Washington Navel Orange called a Cara-Cara that you can check out as well. It has pink flesh and is high in Vitamin A. Bier also suggests that you choose citrus with small thorns, especially if your trees will be placed near a child's play area.

Pest monitoring in the garden is always an ongoing thing. Citrus cannot coexist with gophers. Keep gophers under control with traps or poison baits. Ants must be controlled. They can be controlled by applying Tanglefoot around the tree's trunk. Apply it on a secured strip of paper or a nylon stocking secured to the trunk, not directly on the trunk. Aphids can be dislodged with a forceful spray of water or a spray of insecticidal soap. Whiteflies are often controlled by beneficial insects if ants are kept off the trees and the foliage is washed periodically to remove dust.

Scale can be found on leaves, stems, and fruit. They feed on plant sap. To control scale, apply horticultural oil. If soil is dry, irrigate a day or two before treatment. Mites have piercing mouth parts and feed on plant sap. Periodically washing foliage off with a forceful spray of water helps control spider mites. The European garden snail can cause considerable damage to citrus. It feeds on both the foliage and fruit. Snail baits generally give effective control. A 4-inch wide band of copper sheeting wrapped around the tree's trunk can keep snails from climbing the trunk—they won't cross it. Citrus Leaf Miner is a new pest with citrus. Discuss this problem with nursery personnel or with the Master Gardener Hotline Desk at 858-694-2860. Splitting of oranges can happen in the fall. Studies indicate that temperature changes and relative humidity are mainly responsible for fruit splitting. Damage to fruit can be reduced by maintaining even soil moisture content.

There is much more to say about your backyard citrus. What I have written is a good beginning. You can learn more through the Master Gardener Hotline, requested UC publications, and at a nursery. Enjoy your citrus for its beauty in the garden, its alluring fragrance, and its taste . . . a treat for the senses.

Suzie Heap is a UCCE Master Gardener. She is also a National Council of State Garden Clubs, Inc. landscape design consultant.

Popular Citrus Varieties

Orange

Washington Navel
January-May
Good to eat

Valencia
May-October
Good for juice

Blood Orange
February-May
Burgundy flesh; juicy

Mandarin

Clementine
February-April
Juicy; some seeds

Dancy
February-April
Tangy; seedy

Encore
April-July
Seedy; juicy

Satsuma
December-April
Seedless; juicy

Lemon

Eureka
Year-round
Few seeds; acidic

Lisbon
Year-round
Few seeds; thorny

Improved Meyer
Year-round
Less acidic; few seeds

Grapefruit

Star Ruby
May-November
Less heat than marsh

Oro Blanco hybrid
March-July
Good on coast

Lime

Bears
August-March
Rind yellows with age

Tangelo

Minneola
February-April
Juicy; tart

Kumquat

Meiwa
January-March
Sweet rind; few seeds

Nagami
December-March
Slightly tart rind

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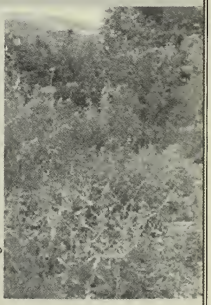

Bob Wigand

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Reviews

Did you know? All the books reviewed in *California Garden* are in the San Diego Floral Association library!

Down & Dirty!

by Ellen Zachos

Storey Publishing

$19.95; 248 pages; paperback

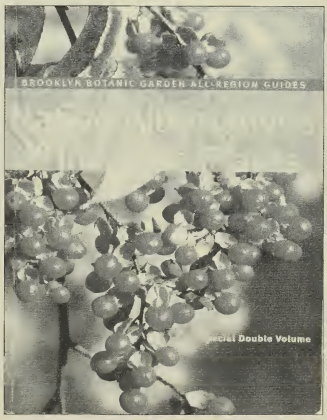
Welcome to the world of Ellen Zachos. "Gardening feeds the heart, mind, and body. It's an avocation, it's a vocation, it's a passion, it's a duty, it's hard work, it's creative indulgence. Gardening gives you perspective and optimism."

Zachos replaced her passion for being on the Broadway stage in musical theater with being in the garden. She wants others to share her new passion and find their place in the gardening world. She has divided her book of 43 no-experience-required projects and activities into four main sections that will invite you into gardening. These sections are entitled Down & Dirty Basics, Down & Dirty Adventures, Down & Dirty Projects, and Down & Dirty Plants. She also has included recipes, segments on container gardens, and activities for kids and families.

I found something in each section to delight me. In the basics category, I especially enjoyed her Raised-Bed Garden. I'm getting older and I don't bend as well as I once did. For an adventure, Fabulous Garden Photographs appealed to me. I like to take photos and make the prints into greeting cards. My friends are happy when they receive a well-framed photograph of my garden along with a friendly note. I like the idea of An Herb Garden in a Window Box, which is featured in the projects section. I learned that a 24-inch box will grow four kinds of herbs and a 36-inch box will grow a half dozen. And, it will grow them just outside of my kitchen window. My favorite in the plants section is entitled "Invite Hummingbirds to Your Garden." The plant list for a hummingbird garden is compatible with our Southern California plant friends.

From the recipe section, I prepared and enjoyed a delightful Blueberry Smoothie. The Container Gardens portion of the book is an informative read on water gardens. And from the Kids and Families section, I chose A Garden to Delight Your Senses, featuring touchable plants that are soft, fragrant, smooth, succulent, sharp, and pointy. The plant selections here are also Southern California-friendly.

I'm willing to bet that you will find among Zachos's 43 projects ones that will inspire and delight you. Isn't it time to bring a little more green into your world?—Suzie Heap



Native Alternatives to Invasive Plants

by C. Colston Burrell

Brooklyn Botanic Garden

$9.95; 239 pages; paperback

Most of us believe when we purchase an attractive potted plant for our home landscape that we have done something positive for ourselves, our neighborhood, and the value of our property.

But wait! The Brooklyn Botanic Garden has presented in this guide a list of plants that have become major invasive plant problems in various sections of our country. It defines an invasive plant as one that establishes a viable population that ultimately alters the structure of a local or regional ecosystem. Most of the plants discussed here are still being sold, making them available in those areas where they cause significant invasion problems, as, for instance, pampas grass in Northern California.

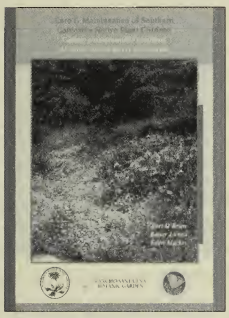
All of the problem plants in this guide are listed in a comprehensive and easy-to-understand format. The invasive plant is listed with states where it is a problem and local native species that will perform as well or better, a photo of the native plant substitute, and information on its range, hardiness, and attributes, plus growing tips.

Go to www.bbg.org/nativealternatives for lists of many more plant substitutes. As an example, I looked up alternatives to icicle plant (*mesembryanthemum)* for the Southern California area and found eight different species, including several local native ground covers that could be substituted for the ubiquitous succulent along our freeways.

This guide is an absolute essential for the concerned gardener.—Don Miller

Editor's Note: *Care & Maintenance of Southern California Native Plant Gardens* has been gifted to the San Diego Floral Association library by the Native Plant Society. Carolyn Martus, president of the San Diego chapter (one of the publishers of the book), provided the following description.

Care & Maintenance of Southern California Native Plant Gardens



by Bart O'Brien, Betsey Landis, and Ellen Mackey
Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden
$29.95; 238 pages; paperback

This book—printed in a partnership of the California Native Plant Society (www.cnps.org), Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden (www.rsabg.org), and The Theodore Payne Foundation for Wildflowers & Native Plants (www.theodorepayne.org), with financial support from the Metropolitan Water District—is comparable to the *Sunset Western Garden Book* because of its wealth of information. The difference is that it deals specifically with California native plants. Written in both English and Spanish, it is packed with information. Topics include climate, soil, irrigation, planting, maintenance (including pruning), pests, weeds, and the threat of wildfire. The seven appendices include a list of references for further research, a glossary, a plant index, and a general index.

It is an essential reference for the amateur gardener and the landscaping professional. Instructions on almost 90 different types of California natives, including pruning and site requirements, are just some of the information in this book. It shows before and after shots of pruning so you are sure to finally learn how to properly prune California natives.—Carolyn Martus

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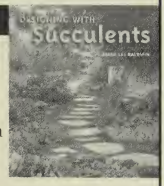

July 9: Designing with Succulents
Debra Lee Baldwin, author of *Designing with Succulents*, offers simple, practical ways to create lovely, low-maintenance gardens that need minimal water. Her book, much of which was photographed in San Diego, will be available for sale.

August 13: Gardening with a Waterwise Approach
Plantswoman Judy Wigand will give gardeners creative ideas of how attractive dry landscapes can be.

Info: sdhortsoc.org or (760) 295-7089

SAN DIEGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

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New Reference Book Additions to the San Diego Floral Association Library

Thanks to the generosity of the author, Margaret Fillius, the San Diego Floral Association library has a new reference book: Native Plants: Torrey Pines State Reserve and Nearby San Diego County Locations.

This second edition is a photographic collection that makes it possible to identify 243 native species at different stages of growth. It is intended as a concise plant identification guide for use in the field.

So, you may ask, why we are making this book available for use only in our office and not in the field? It is because it might be so easily misplaced or damaged in the field; there is more potential long-range use by more association members if the book is part of the noncirculating collection and not inadvertently put in someone's private library. Interested parties may examine the photographs and compare them with their own photos or memories, which are easily transported to the library.

This volume is available for purchase at the Museum of Natural History, across El Prado Drive from the SDFA office. The price for your own copy is approximately $31.00.

The other new reference item in our library is one sent for review from Timber Press: Perennials: The Gardener's Reference. This 541-page tome, with its colored photographs and text describing more than 2,700 perennials, is clearly intended for reference use only.

The first sections are Plant Families and Characteristics: Plants for Special Gardens and Maintenance Guidelines. Following the alphabetical listing of the perennials are a glossary; a common names index; nurseries and sources; recommended reading; a U.S. Department of Agriculture hardiness zone map, and an index under botanical names. The indices are particularly useful for both a general browser and the more experienced gardener.

The authors, Susan Carter, Carrie Becker, and Bob Lilly, have provided a very useful tool for being more informed about this subject.—Jean Hughes

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2007
February 20
April 17
June 19
October 16
Casa del Prado, Room 101
Balboa Park, San Diego

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Sep., Nov., Jan., Mar., May, North County Fair, Escondido, Community Room

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Contact: Takashi Ijichi 619-255-2501
1455 49th St.
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Pres: Carlette Anderson 619-445-5716
2451 Night Star Ct.
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1st Fri - 10:00 am, Homes of Members

BERNARDO GARDENERS
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17685 Cumana Terrace
San Diego, CA 92128-1813
3rd Thu - 1:30 pm, Rancho Bernardo Library

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Pres: Lynne Batchelor 858-451-6764
16048 Caminito Aire Puro
San Diego, CA 92128-3557
2nd Wed - 9:30 a.m., Bonita Public Library

BRIDGE AND BAY GARDEN CLUB
Pres: Claudette Harshberger 619-435-6042
1217 Alameda Blvd.
Coronado, CA 92118-2710
4th Mon - 9:30 a.m., Winn Room, Coronado Public Library

CARLSBAD GARDEN CLUB
Pres: Anne Smith 760-931-9863
3358 Don Diablo Dr.
Carlsbad, CA 92010-3914
CHULA VISTA GARDEN CLUB
Pres: Betsy Cory 619-656-8669
P.O. Box 57
Chula Vista, CA 91912-1016
3rd Thu - 11:45 a.m., Norman Park Senior Center
CORONADO FLORAL ASSOCIATION
Pres: Nancy Griffith 619-435-8079
P. O. Box 180188
Coronado, CA 92118-0188
CROWN GARDEN CLUB
Pres: Jeanne Bowers
P.O. Box 180476
Coronado, CA 92178-0476
4th Thu - 9:30 a.m., Coronado Library
DOS VALLES GARDEN CLUB
Pres: Marcia Townsend 760-749-4976
P. O. Box 123
Valley Center, CA 92082-0123
2nd Tue - 12:30 p.m., Valley Center Com. Hall
FALLBROOK GARDEN CLUB
Pres: Judy Farnan 760-451-0792
P. O. Box 1702
Fallbrook, CA 92088-1702
3rd Wed - 7:00 p.m., FPUD Bldg. on Mission Rd.
Last Thu - 9:30 a.m., Fallbrook Presbyterian Church on Stage Coach
FLEURS DE LEAGUE GARDEN CLUB
Chair: Mrs. Neil Powers 858-829-7944
16049 Vista de Golf
San Diego, CA 92091-4340
2nd Mon - 10:30 a.m., Homes of Members
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Pres: Ann Massey 858-292-9414
P. O. Box 2713
La Jolla, CA 92038-2713
3rd Tue - 1:30 p.m., L.J.Lutheran Church
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Pres: Vernon Bluhm 760-745-1219
710 W. 13th Ave. G118
Escondido, CA 92025
Email: vbluhm@cox.net
4th Mon. 2:00 p.m. Rancho Bernardo Library, 2nd floor
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Pres: Julie Warren 619-298-7043
3919 Portola Place
San Diego, CA 92103-2705
3rd Mon - 10:30 a.m., Homes of Members
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Co-Presidents: Felicia Moscinski 760-726-4047
809 Olive Ave., #40
Vista, CA 92083-3373
Don Nelson 760-630-3580
952 Park Hill Drive
Escondido, CA 92025-4853
Email: donnelson12sbcglobal.net
3rd Sat - 12:45 p.m., MiraCosta Community College, Student Center Bldg. (upstairs)
Meetings Sep through Jun ONLY
MISSION HILLS GARDEN CLUB
Pres: Kathy Jones 619-546-6051
4019 Goldfinch St., #166
San Diego, CA 92103
4th Wed - 6:30 p.m., Mission Hills United Church of Christ at 4070 Jackdaw St.
POINT LOMA GARDEN CLUB
Pres: Nancy Hurlburt 619-223-3315
P.O. Box 8382
San Diego, CA 92166-0382
2nd Wed - 10:00 a.m., Portuguese Hall
2818 Avenida de Portugal
POWAY VALLEY GARDEN CLUB
President: Gail Matson 858-486-8969
P. O. Box 27
Poway, CA 92074-0027
2nd Wed - 9:00 a.m., Lake Poway Pavilion
RAMONA GARDEN CLUB
Pres: Marci Shirley 760-789-8880
P.O. Box 1412
Ramona, CA 92065
2nd Wed - 12:00 noon Ramona Women's Club
RANCHO SAN DIEGO GARDEN CLUB
Pres: Carol Wells 619-749-8325
1818 Sonetts Dr., El Cajon, CA 92019
3rd Tuesday each month at 9:30 a.m.
RANCHO SANTA FE GARDEN CLUB
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P. O. Box 483
Rancho Santa Fe, CA 92067-0483
SAN CARLOS GARDEN CLUB
Pres: Marj Myers 619-448-3613
9241 Galston Dr.
Santee, CA 92071-1510
4th Tue - 9:30 a.m., Homes of Members
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Pres: Susi Torre-Bueno 760-295-7089
P. O. Box 231869
Encinitas, CA 92023-1869
2nd Mon - 6:30 pm, except June
Surfside Race Place
Del Mar Fairgrounds, Jimmy Durante Blvd.
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Pres: Rita Koczela 760-804-7366
7585 Navigator Cir.
Carlsbad, CA 92011-5405
4th Wed - 9:30 a.m., Quail Bot. Gardens
VILLAGE GARDEN CLUB OF LA JOLLA
Pres: Ann Craig 858-454-4117
1802 Amalfi St.
La Jolla, CA 92037-3803
4th Thu., 10:00 a.m., Torrey Pines Christian Church
VISTA GARDEN CLUB
Pres: Karen England 760-214-3685
P. O. Box 44
Vista, CA 92085-0044
1st Fri - 12:00 noon, Vista Senior Center

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10411 San Carlos Dr.
Spring Valley, CA 91978-1034
IKEBANA INTERNATIONAL CHAPTER 119
Pres: Hiroko Fukuhara 858-673-3635
16204 Selva Dr.
San Diego, CA 92128
4th Wed - 10:00 a.m., Casa del Prado
IKENOBO CHAPTER OF SAN DIEGO
Pres: Mrs. Charles Oehler 858-278-5689
2822 Walker Dr.
San Diego, CA 92123-3056
OHARA SCHOOL OF IKEBANA
LA JOLLA CHAPTER
P. O. Box 500765 858-672-7850
San Diego, CA 92150-0765
2nd Tues - 10:00 a.m., La Jolla Library
OHARA SCHOOL OF IKEBANA
SAN DIEGO CHAPTER
Pres: Akiko Bourland 858-273-5899
2936 Havasupai Ave.
San Diego, CA 92117-1641
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2829 Flax Dr.
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PLANT SOCIETIES:

AFRICAN VIOLET

CARLSBAD AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY
Pres: Patty Regan 760-295-0484
2000 S. Melrose Dr. #119
Vista, CA 92081
4th Mon - 10:30 a.m. - Vista Library, 700 Eucalyptus Ave.

BEGONIA

ALFRED D. ROBINSON BRANCH
AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY
Pres: Doris Smith 619-222-1294
4505 Long Branch Ave.
San Diego CA 92107-2333
2nd Tue - 10:30 a.m., Homes of Members
MABEL CORWIN BRANCH
AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY
Pres: Dean Turney 760-942-1919
467 Fulvia
Encinitas, CA 92024-2146
2nd Sun - 1:30 p.m., except May & Aug. Quail Gardens
MARGARET LEE BRANCH
AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY
Pres: Michael Ludwig 619-262-7535
6040 Upland St.
San Diego CA 92114-1933
Last Sat - 10:30 a.m., Homes of Members

BONSAI

HON NON BO ASSOCIATION
Pres: Brenda Storey 858-689-0957
9976 Dauntless St.
San Diego, CA 92126-5514
1st Sun. every other month (begin Feb.)
10:30 a.m., Casa del Prado
SAN DIEGO BONSAI CLUB, INC.
Information: 619-699-8776
P. O. Box 40037
San Diego CA 92164-0037
2nd Sun. - 10:30 a.m., Casa del Prado, Rm. 101
Beginning & intermediate classes at 9:00 am before meeting

CLUB AND PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATES (*continued*)

BROMELIAD

BROMELIAD STUDY GROUP OF BALBOA PARK
Pres: Joann Dossett 619-299-4115
2871 Brant St.
San Diego, CA 92103-6119
2nd Tue. - 7:00 p.m., Casa del Prado

SAN DIEGO BROMELIAD SOCIETY
Pres: Robert Vitacco 619-469-3539 (weekends only)
www.bsi.org/webpages/san_diego.html
P. O. Box 83996
San Diego, CA 92138-3966
2nd Sat., 10:00 a.m., Room 104, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

CACTUS & SUCCULENT

PALOMAR CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY
P. O. Box 840
Escondido, CA 92033
4th Sat - 12:15 p.m., Joslyn Sr. Ctr., Escondido

SAN DIEGO CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY
Pres: Mark Fryer 619-795-1020
P. O. Box 33181
San Diego, CA 92163-3181
2nd Sat - 1:00 p.m., Casa del Prado

CAMELLIA

SAN DIEGO CAMELLIA SOCIETY
Pres: E. C. (Gene) Snooks 858-454-6659
6114 La Jolla Blvd.
La Jolla, CA 92037-6702
3rd Wed. - 7:00 p.m., Casa del Prado
Meetings Nov. through Apr. ONLY

DAHLIA

SAN DIEGO COUNTY DAHLIA SOCIETY
Pres: David J. Tooley 858-672-2593
11375 Nawa Way
San Diego, CA 92129-1116
Email: djsj21643@aol.com
4th Tue. - 7:30 p.m., Casa del Prado

DAYLILY (HEMEROCALLIS)

SOUTHWEST HEMEROCALLIS SOCIETY
Contact: Betsy Hamblin 858-483-5584
851 Opal St.
San Diego, CA 92109-1780
1st Sat. - 10:00 a.m., Sep. through May
Quail Gardens

EPIPHYLLUM

SAN DIEGO EPIPHYLLUM SOCIETY
Pres: Mildred V. Mikas 858-485-5414
P. O. Box 126127
San Diego, CA 92112-6127
Website: www.epiphyllum.com
2nd Wed. - 7:30 p.m., Casa del Prado

FERN

SAN DIEGO FERN SOCIETY
Pres: Sherry Worthen 858-278-2017
3141 Cabrillo Mesa Dr.
San Diego, CA 92123-2945
3rd Thu. - 7:30 p.m., Casa del Prado

FRUIT

CALIFORNIA RARE FRUIT GROWERS
Chair: David Silverstein
4722 Coronado Ave.
San Diego, CA 92107-3543
4th Thu. - 7:00 p.m., Casa del Prado
Nov. & Dec. ONLY, 3rd Thu.

GERANIUM

SAN DIEGO GERANIUM SOCIETY
Pres: Jim Budlove 619-287-6299
6404 Zena Dr.
San Diego, CA 92115-7026
2nd Tue. - 7:00 p.m., Casa del Prado

HERB

THE SAN DIEGO HERB CLUB
Copresidents: Judy Dunning and Cindi Lohry
619-579-0222
Meetings on the 1st Wed. of every month at 7:00 p.m., Balboa Park
Casa del Prado, Room 101

IRIS

SAN DIEGO/IMPERIAL COUNTIES IRIS SOCIETY
Pres: Leon Vogel 951-677-5587
26440 St. Ives Ct., Murrieta, CA 92563-6087
2nd Sun. - 1:00 p.m.
Call for newsletter and location

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY IRIS SOCIETY
Pres: Eileen Fiumara 818-986-4188
4512 Sunnyslope Ave.
Sherman Oaks, CA 91423-3119
1st Thu. - 7:30 p.m. - Canoga Park Women's Club
7401 Jordan, Canoga Park

NATIVE PLANTS

CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY
SAN DIEGO CHAPTER 916-447-2677
P. O. Box 121390 www.cnpssd.org
San Diego, CA 92112-1390
3rd Tue - 7:00 p.m., Casa del Prado

LAKE HODGES NATIVE PLANT CLUB
Pres: Yolanda Fleet 760-745-1219
3045 Felicita Rd.
Escondido, CA 92029-6725
4th Mon. - 2:00 p.m. - Rancho Bernardo Library, 2nd floor

ORCHID

SAN DIEGO COUNTY CYMBIDIUM SOCIETY
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Pres: Loren Ellsworth 858-748-8355
14730 Dash Way
Poway, CA 92064-2914
3rd Wed. - 7:00 p.m., Carlsbad Women's Club

SAN DIEGO COUNTY ORCHID SOCIETY
Pres: Genie Hammond 619-426-6831
P. O. Box 161020
San Diego, CA 92176-1020
1st Tue. - 7:30 p.m., Casa del Prado

ORGANIC

BONITA ORGANIC GARDEN CLUB
Pres: Ron Nordfelt 619-475-8086
935 Rawhide Ct.
Bonita, CA 91902-2422
4th Tue. - 7:00 p.m., Bonita Valley Baptist Church at 4701 Sweetwater Rd. Meeting in back. EXCEPT Aug. & Dec.

PLUMERIA

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA PLUMERIA SOCIETY
Pres: Joy Herzog 619-443-4795
P. O. Box 20553
El Cajon, CA 92021-0940
4th Sun. - 1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m., Feb. through Oct.
Casa del Prado, Room 102
Email: c.herzog@att.net

ROSE

EAST COUNTY ROSE SOCIETY
Pres: Karen Mannino 619-401-9625
11977 Paseo Fuerte
El Cajon, CA 92020-8366
Website: www.eastcountyrosesociety.com
1st Sun - 2:00 p.m., except July & Aug.
Gardens of Members

SAN DIEGO ROSE SOCIETY
Pres: Ruth Tiffany 619-462-5753
6705 Maury Dr.
San Diego, CA 92119-2020
www.sdrosesociety.org
3rd Mon. - 7:30 p.m., Casa del Prado
EXCEPT Jan. & Feb. - 4th Mon.
No meetings July & Aug.

TREES

PEOPLE FOR TREES
Contact: Pat Stevenson 619-222-TREE
P. O. Box 120505 FAX 619-223-TREE
San Diego, CA 92112-0505
Email: adoglover1@juno.com
4th Tue. - 6:30 p.m., 743 Imperial Ave.

WATER GARDEN

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA WATER GARDEN SOCIETY
Pres: Ed Simpson 760-436-3704
1302 Avocado Rd.
Oceanside, CA 92054-5702
3rd Sun - Apr. through Oct.
Website: groups.yahoo.com/group/sdwatergarden
Email: dc@pondplants.com
Call for meeting information.

AFFILIATES:
Send changes to Affiliates Editor, California Garden, 1650 El Prado #105, San Diego, CA 92101-1622. Call 619-232-5762
Email: membership@sdfloral.org

Deadline for September/October issue: July 20, 2007

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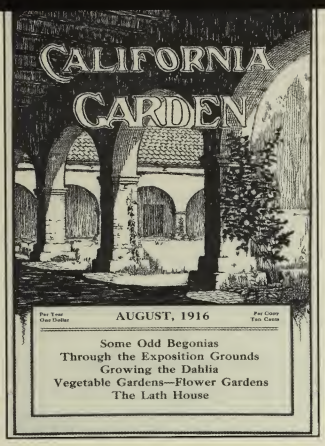

Going Green

When we talk of green, we do so generally just as we talk of white or black. But when we consider that there is only one white or one black, while there are hundreds of greens running the gamut from almost white to almost black, and when we multiply all of this line of green with its various mixtures with any and all of the other shades of the rainbow in various and infinite proportions and mixtures, then we realize that green means really more to us than merely a simple color.

To the garden lover this variation in the shades of green opens up wonderful possibilities, in the laying out of his garden. The combination or graduation of one green into another, then considering the height to which a tree or shrub will grow and how it will blend or contrast with other shades of green, all form an interesting as well as profitable study.

Certain greens form an admirable background for others or amplify the effect of the bloom of lower-growing shrubs in front of them. Other plants again give wonderful effects if planted in mass, the foliage being really more of the garden than the bloom.

We give particular attention to planting certain shrubs so as to have a continuity of bloom, also as to the various colors of the bloom, so that one color will not clash with the other, but how many of us really pay the least attention to the foliage. Now really this is more important than the flowers for the reason that most shrubs or plants bloom from two to six weeks, while their foliage lasts all the rest of the year, so that in reality our gardens are gardens of green rather than of bloom. Then we have so many shades to choose from even in the same family of plants. Take the canna, for instance, with its great variety of green foliage. We have the dwarf and the tall varieties to choose from, then from a very light green foliage down to the bronzy greens and olives. What wonderful possibilities, in the proper placing and grouping of a bed of this description. One of the most striking examples of making use of the different greens was a formal bed that I once saw in Pasadena. It was made up of the commonest plants. A large bed of geraniums, with it a mass of red flowers and bright green leaves. This was trimmed up to a uniform height, this mass of geraniums was surrounded by a carefully kept hedge of "dusty miller," about half its height, with its silver green leaves. In front of this was planted a wide band of low-growing plant with a yellowish-green foliage, then came the lawn, with its emerald hue. The effect was most striking. Though it was not an effect that one would want to get except in formal gardening, yet it teaches us a lesson in the possibilities of contrast.

This same contrast is not confined to shrubs or flowering plants, but when we consider the eucalyptus, and the acacias, the conifers and even the palms with all their endless green, then we have the further benefit of their forms and habits of growth, some that are tall and some that are short, and some that are slender and some that are spreading, some that droop and others that shoot aloft, then we see the possibilities are endless and the combinations so great that no one need have a garden that is any way like any one else's. There is a chance for ingenuity and originality that is open to us all. If we but study "green" and its combinations, we will surely have a garden of character.—from "Green," by L.A. Blochman, *California Garden*, August 1916, p. 13

"These color principles remain as relevant today as they were in 1916, when they were first published."
—Karin Kratz

From *California Garden* magazine, 1939:

To a Jacaranda

Lovely exotic Jacaranda Tree.
Amid the palms you proudly lift on high
Your leafy crown of fern-like foliage,
Beneath the glory of an alien sky.

Under the golden glances of the sun
Your boughs with countless blossoms bud and blow,
At night above your delicate fringed leaves,
Their silver lace the moonbeams lightly throw.

The gentle winds sometimes your branches stir,
Perchance from your green glooms the Southern breeze
Brings whispers of songs or clash of castanets,
The phantom echoes of great memories.

Decked in your panoply of purple plumes,
Magnificent in regal state and stand,
Matchless and beautiful beyond compare,
A queen in exile in a foreign land.
—Lila Monroe Tainter

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